In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A remotely controlled controller for an electricity supply contained within <u>at least one of</u> meter [or]] <u>and</u> an adapter arranged to be mounted between a demountable meter and a supply socket, the controller comprising:

    a temperature compensated paging receiver;

    a decoder for decoding control messages received via the paging receiver;

    <u>at least one of</u> the paging receiver ~~and/or~~ <u>and the</u> decoder having a unique address identifying an individual controller;

    a power switch for connecting ~~and/or disconnecting~~ power between the supply socket and a load; and

    a control arrangement for receiving decoded messages from the decoder and arranged to act upon control instructions included in [[the]] decoded <u>control</u> messages to cause the power switch to connect or disconnect the supply socket ~~to/from~~ <u>to and from</u> the load: wherein said messages have ~~the~~ <u>a</u> format [[-]] <u>of</u> a first set of ASCII check sum characters, followed by a second set of ASCII sub address characters, and a third set of ASCII command message characters.

2. (original) A controller as claimed in claim 1 in which said first set comprises six characters.

3. (original) A controller as claimed in claim 1 in which the second set comprises eight characters.

4. (original) A controller as claimed in claim 1 in which said third set is a variable length string of characters.

5.   (currently amended) A controller as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a reverse power lockout circuit arranged to monitor [[the]] voltage on the load side of the power switch when the switch is open and inhibit closing of the power switch when a voltage above a given threshold is detected.

6.   (currently amended) A controller as claimed in claim 5 in which the <u>command</u> message characters are alpha numeric characters.

7.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 5 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

8.   (currently amended) A controller as claimed in claim 7 in which the <u>command</u> message characters are alpha numeric characters.

9.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 6 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

10.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 9 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

11.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 5 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

12.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 11 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

13.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 7 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

14.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 13 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

15.   (currently amended) A controller as claimed in claim 13 in which the <u>command</u> message characters are alpha numeric characters.

16.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 15 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

17.   (currently amended) A controller as claimed in claim 1 in which the <u>command</u> message characters are alpha numeric characters.

18.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 17 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

19.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 17 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

20.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 19 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

21.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 18 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

22.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 21 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

23.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 1 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

24.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 23 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

25.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 24 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

26.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a load current measuring arrangement, wherein when a load current greater than a preset value is detected by the load current measuring arrangement, the controller is arranged to open the power switch for a preset period.

27.   (currently amended) A controller as claimed in claim 26 in which the <u>command</u> message characters are alpha numeric characters.

28.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 26 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

29.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 27 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

30.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 29 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

31.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 29 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

32.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 30 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

33.   (original) A controller as claimed in claim 26 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

34.　(original)　A controller as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

35.　(original)　A controller as claimed in claim 34 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

36.　(original)　A controller as claimed in claim 26 further comprising a manual reset switch accessible outside the controller for resetting the power switch.

37.　(original)　A controller as claimed in claim 36 in which operation of the manual reset switch is enabled by received messages.

38.　(original)　A controller as claimed in claim 36 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

39.　(original)　A controller as claimed in claim 37 arranged to receive messages containing instructions to alter conditions set within the controller and to act upon those altered instructions.

40.　(original)　A controller as claimed in claim 1, in which the control arrangement extracts the control instructions from the decoded messages by means of a sliding window.

41.　(currently amended)　A system for remotely controlling the supply of electric power to customer premises comprising:

a central control computer programmed to produce control instructions for transmission to a controller contained within at least one of a meter [[or]] and an adapter located between a supply socket and a demountable meter [[at]] at each customer=s customer's premises, each controller having at least one of a unique identifier [[or]] and belonging to a group with a single common unique identifier; wherein the central control computer is programmed to produce a command message

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having ~~the format~~ a format of a first set of ASCII check sum characters, followed by a second set of ASCII sub address characters, and third set of ASCII command message characters, and

a paging system for transmitting the command message from the central control computer to each controller; wherein each controller comprises a temperature compensated paging receiver, a decoder for decoding command messages addressed to that controller, a switching arrangement for connecting ~~and/or disconnecting~~ the supply socket ~~to/from~~ to and from a load, and a control arrangement for receiving control messages from the decoder and arranged to act upon the instructions to cause the switching arrangement to connect or disconnect the supply socket to/from the load.

42.   (original) A system as claimed in Claim 41 in which the first set comprises six characters.

43.   (original) A system as claimed in Claim 41 in which the second set comprises eight characters.

44.   (original) A system as claimed in Claim 41 in which the third set is a variable length string of characters.

45.   (currently amended) A system as claimed in Claim 42 in which the second set comprises eight characters and the third set is a variable length string of characters in which the check sum is calculated according to a method having the following steps:

A) add together the ASCII value of each odd character position starting with the first character of the second set and continuing to the end of the third set,

B) truncate the result to 12 binary bits if necessary (FFF hex),

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C) starting with ~~the~~ a most significant nibble of the 12 bit value calculated in Step b), function OR this value to 30 hex after bit shifting the nibble to the least significant position to produce the first check sum character,

D) repeat the step c) for the last two nibbles to produce the second and third check sum characters,

E) add together the ASCII value of each even character position starting with the first character of the second set and continuing to the end of the third set,

F) truncate the result to 12 binary bits if necessary (FFFhex),

G) repeat steps c) and d) using the result from step f) instead of step b) to produce the final three characters of the check sum.

46.   (original) A system as claimed in claim 41 in which the command message is transmitted more than once to each controller.

47-49. (cancelled)

50.   (currently amended) A message structure for sending commands to a remote controller, the message structure comprising a first set of six ASCII check sum characters, followed by a second set of ASCII sub address characters, and third set of ASCII command message characters, and in which the second set comprises eight characters and the third set is a variable length string of characters in which the check sum is calculated according a method having the following steps:

A) add together the ASCII value of each odd character position starting with the first character of the second set and continuing to the end of the third set,

B) truncate the result to 12 binary bits if necessary (FFF hex),

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C) starting with a most significant nibble of the 12 bit value calculated in Step b), function OR this value to 30 hex after bit shifting the nibble to the least significant position to produce the first check sum character,

D) repeat the step c) for the last two nibbles to produce the second and third check sum characters,

E) add together the ASCII value of each even character position starting with the first character of the second set and continuing to the end of the third set,

F) truncate the result to 12 binary bits if necessary (FFFhex),

G) repeat steps c)and d)using the result from step f)instead of step b)to produce a final three characters of the check sum.

51 - 53. (cancelled)

54.   (cancelled)

55.   (cancelled)